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**German Church**

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**On Saturday, Nov. 19, 1904**  
COMMENCING AT 12 NOON AND  
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AT  
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THE AQUARIUM WILL BE OPEN  
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tables.

**KEKAHA PORTO RICANS  
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATED**

**The Petition the Work of a Peripatetic Mischief  
Maker---Manager Faye Would Be Sorry  
to Lose the People.**

Some weeks ago Governor Carter gave the Advertiser for publication a petition from several Porto Ricans, who professed to be living at Kekaha, Kauai, complaining of their treatment on the plantation there. The petition was printed in full in the Advertiser.

Governor Carter wrote to H. P. Faye, manager of Kekaha Sugar Co., on the subject matter of the petition, and to C. B. Hofgaard, District Magistrate of Kekaha, asking him to investigate the condition of the Porto Ricans in his district. Both of these gentlemen have replied to the Governor with the detailed reports on the cases of the seven signers of the petition.

Judge Hofgaard reports in reference to the matter as follows:

**THE PETITION'S AUTHOR.**

"The petition" was gotten up by one Jose Ramon Vendrell, who travels from one plantation to another, living on his countrymen. He came here originally as an agent for procuring Porto Rican laborers, but he had not the look to be an agent of such class and standing as the Hawaiian planters had any confidence in. He is well educated, of unsteady habits and not well balanced.

**THE PORTO RICANS.**

"Kekaha plantation has about forty Porto Ricans on its pay roll and, with women and children, about a hundred of them are on the place. Their quarters are situated on a sand flat near the mill and on the seacoast. Wells have been dug in many places near the camp which contain brackish water. It is, however, fit for washing purposes. Drinking water is had at the mill, which comes from springs in the mountains, and they have in no cases to carry drinking water more than 300 yards. From the looks of their quarters they evidently use only a small amount of washing water.

"A family with children has two rooms and a kitchen. Single men have each one room. For families consisting of only a man and his wife, there are only two rooms and one kitchen for two such families. All of them have free firewood and doctor whether they work or not. Nearly all of them appear to be happy. All that I saw said that the plantation management and overseers were kind and good to them, and I believe from my own knowledge that they are better treated here than on most places. They get one dollar more per month than the laborers of other nationalities. None of them have ever complained about the management and, as a rule, Porto Ricans in this neighborhood seek work from this plantation, as they are well treated here.

"From visits to them and from inquiries I have found out the following facts about those that complained.

**THE COMPLAINERS.**

"Primitivo Mattos is 27 years of age and very sick-looking. He has not worked for three years. He never goes to see the doctor and acts as if his mind was not exactly right.

"Severo Colon is 71 years old. The head overseer of the place tells me that he worked five days after arrival and has not worked since. He is old and decrepit looking and has no family.

"Blas Aponte is 68 years old, is considered by the plantation authorities a good man and has been given light work. He has no family and no relatives. He is very hard of hearing and has not wanted work for a long time.

"Eleuterio Valle is not in Kekaha and as far as I can find has never been with the plantation.

"Secundino Troche is a married man with four children, of whom two grown-up live with him. He is not a very creditable specimen of humanity--makes his living by gambling and has served one year in jail for larceny, and came back from jail about a year ago. Soon after his arrival he had the misfortune of breaking his arm in jumping off a moving train. His arm is weak but he can do and has done some light work. His wife ran away from him some time ago.

"Pedro Galindo is married. He works with the women in the field and so does his wife. He does not look strong.

"Rosario Torres is not at Kekaha.

**CONCLUSIONS.**

"My recommendations are that nothing be done about the petition, as there is no reasonable complaint contained therein. The Porto Ricans at Kekaha are, as a rule, contented. There are among them a few sick and unfortunate that have to depend partly on the charity of their compatriots and others, and they do get help."

**THE MANAGER'S STATEMENT.**

Manager Faye writes the Governor in part as follows:

"In regard to the petition of certain Porto Ricans I have only to say that the men who signed it are of the worst element.

"Primitivo Mattos never works but we have never asked him to leave and we have given him a house ever since he has been here.

"Severo Colon, ditto.

"Secundino Troche broke his arm the first day he worked, after having left the plantation by jumping off a moving train. We had him at the hospital for some time. He is now well but his arm is weak. He does some light work. He has the reputation of being a gambler and has been in jail.

"Pedro Galindo works at light jobs but is not very strong.

"The others who signed are not here and we cannot find out if they have ever been here. Their names are not on our pay roll. Most of these men are single.

**CAUSED A STRIKE.**

"I understand that Mr. Hofgaard was here the other day to investigate the matter, and as a direct result we had today a strike among them. The Porto Ricans objected to work with their luna.

"They said they were Americans and had the support of the Governor of Hawaii. I told them they were not bound to work on the plantation, but could go where they liked. I do not know how they will act but trust they will all go back to work. If not we certainly cannot afford to house them here.

**PORTO RICANS LIKED.**

"We have had no trouble with our Porto Ricans before this. As a rule they like to work at Kekaha and we have almost daily men coming to apply for work. We have taken on only men whom three of our old men will guarantee.

"I have always liked the Porto Ricans as workmen, and I think our gang of forty odd is as good a set of laborers as can be found on the islands, and I should be very sorry if they left here."

**CHEMIST TOEPELMANN  
FOUND UNCONSCIOUS**

Night before last after midnight the well-known chemist of the Pacific Fertilizer Works, T. Toepelmann, was found lying on King street near the corner of Liliha. His breath showed he had been drinking and the police, as is customary in such cases, put him in a cell. Noticing that the stranger was well-dressed extra care was taken of him, an officer spending the better part of an hour bathing his face and head with cold water. There were no signs of broken bones or of cerebral shock, the whole appearance of the man being the familiar one produced by alcoholism. Mr. Toepelmann was made as comfortable as possible for the night. In the morning it was found that he was suffering from concussion of the brain and he was immediately taken to the Queen's Hospital, where he was hanging between life and death at a late hour last night.

Mr. Toepelmann lives out at Kalihi and was seen aboard a King street car at the Young Hotel corner by friends about half-past eleven. How or why he happened to get out of the car is not known.

A pool of blood was found where he lay in the street. Whether he received his injury by falling against the curb or was assaulted is not known. The police think he fell. It seems probable that he was robbed as he always carries a considerable amount of money around with him, while when searched only 45 cents were found.

The friends of Mr. Toepelmann are up in arms at what they term the negligence of the police in not having had a doctor examine him when brought in.

A letter has been addressed to the Attorney General on these lines and the matter will be brought before the Grand Jury when it meets at 10 this morning.

**PLANTERS'  
CONVENTION**

**Machinery and Labor  
Saving Devices  
Discussed.**

"Machinery" and "Labor-Saving Devices" were the two general topics that occupied the second day's session, yesterday, of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association. It would be impossible in newspaper space to give even a synopsis of the elaborate reports presented on these subjects, coming in as they did in pamphlets of 15 and 20 octavo pages, respectively, and copiously illustrated with engravings and diagrams.

The report of the Committee on Machinery embodied papers as follows: C. Hedemann, chairman, dealt with a complete new factory erected on Hawaii plantation, the enlargement of the evaporator of the Hilo Sugar Co., the installation of a complete nine-roller mill by Pahuau Plantation, the same thing on Kahuku Plantation with a Wick's cane unloader and a Krajewski crusher, an additional large pumping station on Honolulu Plantation, the conversion of Oahu Plantation's nine-roller to a twelve-roller mill, the conversion of Koloa's two-roller into a three-roller plant and the replacing by Kilauea Sugar Co. of its old three-roller with a new 32x60 three-roller mill; also new machinery installations made at Lihue, Makaweli and Pacific mills.

James Scott of Kihel contributed an exhaustive paper on "Fuel Oil," replete with tables and diagrams, which elicited one of the most interesting discussions thus far of the sessions. Oil seemed to hold its position in the end against all objections.

"Juice Weighing Machinery" was the subject of a thesis by J. N. S. Williams of Pioneer Mill.

Mr. Hedemann, besides the main report already noted, embodied in the pamphlet an essay on "Progress in Milling," containing a table as wide as four pages showing average results obtained in the three seasons 1902, 1903 and 1904 by fourteen mills in the Hawaiian Islands.

Max Lorenz, consulting engineer of H. Hackfeld & Co., furnished the concluding paper of the series, on "Central Condensation in Sugar Houses."

**LABOR-SAVING DEVICES.**

James A. Low of Honolulu Plantation Co., as chairman of the new Committee on Labor-Saving Devices, presented a profusely illustrated pamphlet as the result of the committee's investigations.

In the introductory remarks the report speaks hopefully of the possibility of the advent of successful cane loaders and cane cutters. Labor-saving devices that have come under the committee's observation are mentioned as follows:

Wick's cane unloader in use at Punene, Maui, has been "a perfect success." A machine for sewing sugar bags at the same place has been so successful that a second one was ordered. The saving is not in labor but in twine. One season's savings on this score will pay for a machine.

An overhead juice-weighing Howe beam scale on Honolulu plantation has given perfect success. An electrical register of mill data has been installed in the same mill. A new vacuum pump built by the Honolulu Iron Works is favorably mentioned.

Cuts are given of a simple automatic weir reporter placed upon the discharges of all of the high duty irrigating pumps of the Honolulu plantation.

"The great advantage to the management of this device is the daily record obtained which gives a check upon the exact running time of the pumps and shows the least change in rate of discharge, due to such causes as low steam or poor valves, etc.

The Wilson-Webster cane-loader, used on Ewa plantation, is stated to have merit. Slings and derricks are discussed at some length and illustrated.

Correspondence had been carried on

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Miles and miles of pretty ribbons of every description ready for alert buyers who know the advantage of buying at half price.

We invite everyone to come to examine these ribbons and to compare the prices with those in sales they have attended elsewhere. You will gain much by doing so.

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No. 3 Wash Ribbon, 20c. a bolt.	No. 16 Satin Ribbon, 12 1-2c. a yard.
No. 1 1-2 Satin Ribbon, 20c. a bolt.	No. 16 Silk Ribbon, 12 1-2c. a yard.
No. 2 Satin Ribbon, 35c. a bolt.	No. 22 Satin Ribbon, 15c. a yard.
No. 5 Satin Ribbon, 5c. a yard.	No. 22 Silk Ribbon, 15c. a yard.
No. 5 Silk Ribbon, 5c. a yard.	No. 40 Silk Ribbon, 12 1-2 and 20c. a yd.
No. 7 Fancy Silk Ribbon, 8 1-3c. a yard.	No. 60 Silk Ribbon, 15c. a yard.
No. 7 Satin Ribbon, 8 1-3c. a yard.	No. 60 Satin Ribbon, 15c. a yard.
No. 7 Silk Ribbon, 8 1-3c. a yard.	No. 60 Fancy Ribbon 15 and 20c.
No. 9 Satin Ribbon, 10c. a yard.	No. 80 Fancy Ribbon, 20 and 25c.
	5 inch Fancy Ribbon, 15.

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Correspondence had been carried on

with D. M. Osborn & Co., manufacturers of the Osborn cutter, with a view to having them try their skill in devising a cane-cutter. They suggested the possibility of a machine that would bring down the stalks in two cuts and the committee believed the idea could be worked up to a feasibility. However, the Osborns had to give up consideration of the matter for the present owing to a pressure of work in their establishment.

Reference is made in conclusion to a plow devised by George Mayfield of Punene for hilling up, and to new tools devised by John A. Scott of the Hilo Sugar Co. and Messrs. Webster and Forbes of the Onomea Sugar Co., to split the stools of yellow Caledonia cane so that they can be handled by the harrows when replotting land.

**THE THIRD DAY.**

The Planters' Association will resume its sessions this morning. This evening its annual banquet will be held at the Moana hotel.

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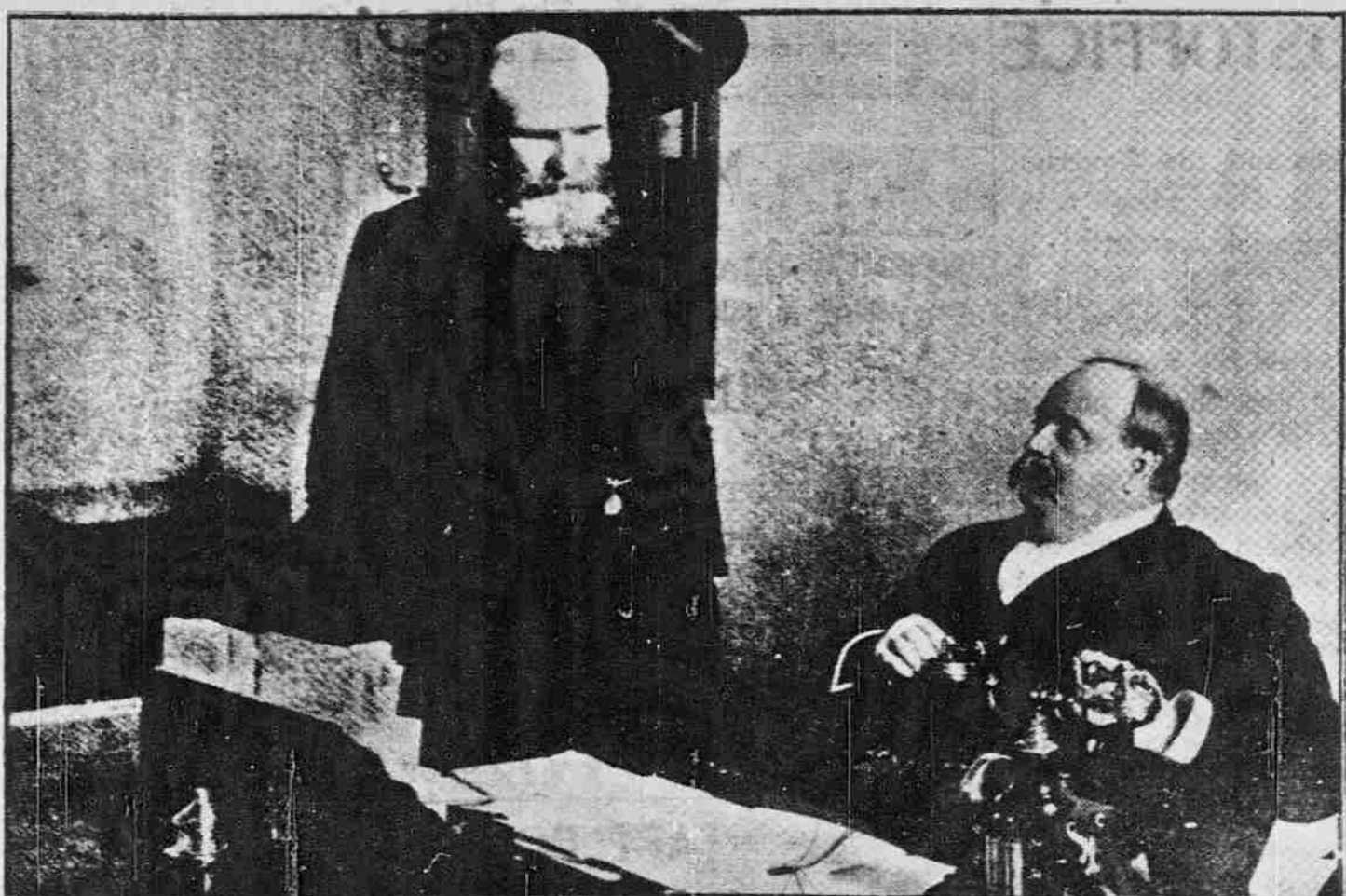
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HOW THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT IS RUN.—MR. G. H. REID, THE PRIME MINISTER, WITH MR. SIDNEY SMITH (POSTMASTER-GENERAL.)